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the other figures, and, in some instances, partially covered by them, are seven human hands, done in white in the 'stencil method' of drawing. The only right hand among these is shown in the shut position, which is rather uncommon " (p. 271).

The Beginning of Agriculture. W. J. MCGEE. Ibid., pp. 350-375.

Under the heads of regional characteristics, vegetable life, animal life, coöperative characteristics of life, human life, etc., Prof. McGee treats of that little known region in Arizona and Sonora (Mexico) called by the Spaniards "Papagueria," or country of the Papago Indians. It is a careful study of the influence of environment. The author's general conclusion is as follows: "It may appear paradoxical to affirm that it is in arid districts, where agriculture is most arduous, that agriculture began; yet the affirmation is not gainsaid by history, and is established beyond reasonable doubt by the evidence of the desert organisms and organizations. So, whatever its last estate, in its beginning, agriculture is the art of the desert."

Introduction of the Iron Age into America. O. T. MASON. Ibid., Vol. IX (1896), pp. 191-215.

Among the topics touched upon in this graphic sketch are: Absence of siderotechny from America, varieties of acculturation, intrusion of African culture, intrusion of Aryan culture, Eskimo and the Iron Age, the Iron Age and the Indians, the Russian Iron Age, the Iron Age on the Pacific coast, the Mediterranean Iron Age. The author's chief conclusions are: (1) Aboriginally there was neither smelting of iron nor working by means of it in America, —no iron products, no use of iron as a metal. (2) The Iron Age that modified America was the conservative folk-age, the Middle Age as distinguished from the Renaissance, which replaced the old in progressive Europe.

Mediæval "Glamour" and its Antidotes. DAVID MACRITCHIE. Amer. Antiq., Vol. XVIII (1896), pp. 87-95.

The conclusion of the author is that "glamours" are the mediæval equivalent of "mesmerism," and that this theory "places many of the folk-tale incidents in a new light."

Devil Worship as an Early and Natural Stage in the Evolution of Religion. DR. PAUL CARUS. Ibid., pp. 95-98.

The most interesting point in this essay is the interpretation of Leviticus xvi, where *Azazel* ("the strength of God"), translated "scape-goat" in the King James' Version of the Bible, is regarded as "a last remnant of a prior dualism" — *Azazel*, the strong god, has become a mere shadow of himself.

The Work of the Kunger-Bag. ALEX. W. BEALER. Ibid., pp. 99-106.

This is an interesting contribution to the literature of "conjuring" among the negroes of the south. The bag and its contents are fully described.

The Negro in the West Indies. F. L. HOFFMAN. Publ. Amer. Statist. Assoc. (Boston), Vol. IV (1895), pp. 181-200.

This study, well furnished with statistical tables, treats of population, elements of population, birth and death rates, conjugal condition, education. The following remark of the author is note-

worthy : "The statistics of conjugal condition, previously given in this paper, prove that the prevailing moral condition of the colored population of these islands is worse to-day than it could possibly have been in the past, and that, with the exception of the Bermudas, the tendency does not seem to be upward, but toward a still lower level of immorality and vice."

Left-Handedness in North American Aboriginal Art. D. G. BRINTON. *Ibid.*, pp. 175-181.

This paper gives the results of the examination as to "plane of cleavage," asymmetry, etc., of several hundred flint blades in the museum of the University of Pennsylvania, taken from different parts of the United States. Dr. Brinton concludes: "The hand preferred was no doubt the right hand, but the notably large proportion of thirty-three per cent. for probably left-handed work indicates either that there were more left-handed persons, or, as I prefer to believe, that there were more who were ambidextrous. This may have been due to the fact that the methods of flint-chipping favored the use of both hands, but it is as likely that it indicates a general physiological tendency." From the observation and examination of drawings and picture-writing of the Indians, the author arrives also at the result that "the aboriginal race of North America was either left-handed or ambidextrous to a greater degree than the peoples of modern Europe." The real source of the preference for the right hand, which (though not to the same degree) has existed in the majority of mankind from earliest times, Dr. Brinton holds, lies in the *erect posture of the human species*.

Ueber die Vererbung erworbener Eigenschaften. G. RETZIUS. *Biolog. Untersuch.*, Neue Folge, VII (1895), S. 61-71.

After brief discussion of previous literature on the subject, the author résumés the results of the investigations of Prof. Havelock Charles of the medical school in Lahore, India, on the "Influence of Function as Exemplified in the Morphology of the Lower Extremity of the Panjabi," a paper published in the *Journal of Anatomy and Physiology* for 1893, and another paper on "Morphological Peculiarities in the Panjabi and their Bearing on the Question of the Transmission of Acquired Characters," in the same periodical for 1894. Not only does Prof. Retzius see in these data evidence of the origin of variation through difference in body-position, customs and uses, but also of the possibility of the hereditary transmission of such peculiarities. The retroversion of the tibia is one of the most noticeable of these. According to Retzius this is also a *constant* characteristic of the Swedish *fœtus*; indeed, perhaps of the *fœtus* in general, and in it we have "*an original morphological character*," transmitted from grey antiquity by inheritance. But we must be careful not to mistake something else for an atavistic or hereditarily transmitted acquired characteristic. The ethnological side of the subject is still somewhat dark.

The Arrow. F. H. CUSHING. *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. VIII (1895), pp. 307-349.

This is the first part of a most valuable and detailed study of the antiquity of the arrow, its influence, its relation to anthropology, the typical arrow, arrow-making, the origin of early art and of lance-form tools, the development of arrow-form missiles, the origin of the dart-flinger and the bow, — in brief, the complete history of the arrow as only an expert, like Mr. Cushing, could give it.